Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 (currently amended): A method for routing telecommunications traffic between a network and a sub-network, the sub-network including: (a) a master router; and (b) a back up router, wherein the master and the back up routers ~~in which routing devices of the sub-network~~ route the traffic in the sub-network according to a virtual router redundancy protocol, the method comprising the steps of:

setting criteria that relates a condition of the network to the redundancy protocol of the sub-network;

configuring the master router to:

(a) monitor the criteria; and

(b) trigger switching between the master router and the back up router based on the criteria.

~~triggering switching between the routing devices of the sub-network on the basis of the criteria.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the criteria relates an interruption in a link of a router interface between the network and the sub-network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the criteria relates a number of bit failures of a router interface between the network and the sub-network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method according to claim 2, wherein the criteria relates a number of bit failures of a router interface between the network and the sub-network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the criteria relates traffic load of a router interface between the network and the sub-network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method according to claim 2, wherein the criteria relates traffic load of a router interface between the network and the sub-network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method according to claim 3, .wherein the criteria relates traffic load of a router interface between the network and the sub-network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the criteria relates an availability of a router interface between the network and the sub-network according to a routing table coupled to the network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method according to claim 2, wherein the criteria relates an availability of a router interface between the network and the sub-network according to a routing table coupled to the network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method according to claim 3, wherein the criteria relates an availability of a router interface between the network and the sub-

network according to a routing table coupled to the network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method according to claim 5, wherein the criteria relates an availability of a router interface between the network and the sub-network according to a routing table coupled to the network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the criteria relates a number of entries in a routing table coupled to the network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method according to claim 2, wherein the criteria relates a number of entries in a routing table coupled to the network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method according to claim 3, wherein the criteria relates a number of entries in a routing table coupled to the network to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the criteria relates a load of a processor involved in routing the telecommunications traffic to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the criteria relates a number of resources of the network available to switching of the router devices according to the virtual router redundancy protocol.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A system for routing telecommunications traffic, the system comprising:

a network for transceiving ~~sending and/or receiving~~ the telecommunications traffic;

a sub-network for transceiving ~~receiving and/or sending~~ the telecommunications traffic with ~~from or/to~~ the network;

a master router and a back up router, wherein the master router and the back up router are configured to route ~~routing devices for routing~~ the telecommunications traffic in the sub-network according to a virtual router redundancy protocol; and

a criteria that relates a condition of the network to the virtual router redundancy protocol, the master router configured to monitor the criteria thereby causing the master router to trigger switching between the master router and the back up router ~~routing devices~~ to route the telecommunications traffic according to the condition in the network.

Claim 18 (original): The system according to claim 17, wherein the network is an Internet Protocol network.

Claim 19 (canceled).